

# PROPOSED EDUCATOR CODE OF ETHICS

Based upon NEA Code of Ethics Adopted by the NEA Representative Assembly

- Commitment to the Students
- Commitment to the Profession

#### PRINCIPLE I

## Commitment to the Students

The educator strives to help each student realize his or her potential as a worthy and effective member of society. The educator therefore works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals. In fulfillment of the obligation to the students, the educator:

- 1. Shall treat all students with respect and dignity.
- 2. Shall provide students with opportunities for expansion of ideas and support their varying perspectives.
- 3. Shall make reasonable effort to protect students from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety.
- 4. Shall maintain a professional relationship with students.
- 5. Shall maintain confidentiality of students obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
- 6. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to students' progress.
- 7. Shall not intentionally expose students to embarrassment or disparagement.
- 8. Shall not on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or religious beliefs, family, social or cultural background, or sexual orientation, unfairly:
  - \* Exclude any student from participation in any program.
  - \* Deny benefits to any student.
  - \* Grant any advantage to any student.

#### PRINCIPLE II

## Commitment to the Profession

The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service. In the belief that the quality of the services of the education profession directly influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, to promote a climate that encourages the exercise of professional judgment, to achieve conditions that attract persons worthy of the trust to careers in education, and to assist in preventing the practice of the profession by unqualified persons. In fulfillment of the obligation to the profession, the educator:

- 1. Shall act with integrity and treat all colleagues with respect and dignity.
- 2. Shall maintain the positive and professional image of educators in the community
- 3. Shall maintain confidentiality of colleagues obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
- 4. Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague.
- 5. Shall not in an application for a professional position deliberately make a false statement or fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and qualification.
- 6. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications.
- 7. Shall not assist any entry into the profession of a person known to be unqualified in respect to character, education, or other relevant attribute.
- 8. Shall not knowingly make a false statement concerning the qualifications of a candidate for a professional position.
- 9. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or action.

Major violation of any of these principles shall subject the individual to revocation or suspension of the individual educator's certificate, or other sanctions as stipulated by law or GCEC rule.